

REMARKS

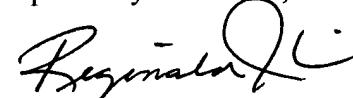
This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 2, 2004.

Claims 1, 3-7, 10-12, 14 and 18-31 were pending. In the Office Action of December 2, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 3-6, 10-12, 14 and 18-24. Claims 25-31 were allowed and claim 7 was merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form.

By this amendment, claims 1, 3, 7 and 18-24 are cancelled. Former claim 7 is re-presented as claim 4. Consistent with the Examiner's previous determination, claim 4 and its dependent claims 5-6, 10-12 and 14 are allowable, at least because claim 4 is former claim 7 rewritten in allowable, independent form. And, claims 25-31 were allowed in the December 2, 2004 Office Action. Hence, all pending claims, claims 4-6, 10-12, 14 and 25-31 are allowable.

Allowance at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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